

**Village of Wesley Hills
Board of Trustees
Board Meeting, ZOOM
Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Marshall Katz, Mayor
Ed McPherson, Deputy Mayor
Howard Richman, Trustee
Marion Ben-Jacob, Trustee

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ruth Ivey, Trustee

OTHERS PRESENT:

Camille Guido-Downey, Village Clerk
Donalee Berard, Treasurer

Mayor Katz called the meeting to order at 7 pm followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #1

Resolution #08-21

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting: January 5, 2021

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2021, seconded by Ed McPherson. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item # 2

Resolution #09-21

Resolution authorizing the refund of the balance of the escrow deposit of C&R Group Corp.

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Ed McPherson:

WHEREAS, in December of 2020, C&R Group Corp. entered into an Escrow Agreement with the Village of Wesley Hills pursuant to which the sum of \$3,250.00 was deposited with the Village of Wesley Hills to be held in escrow pursuant to the terms of said Escrow Agreement, and

WHEREAS there remains on deposit with the Village of Wesley Hills the balance of said escrow fund in the sum of \$3,250.00, and

WHEREAS, by letter dated December 15, 2020, the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills recommended the release of the balance of the escrow fund to C&R Group Corp.,

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby directed to refund the balance of the aforementioned escrow fund in the sum of \$3,250.00 less the sum of \$651.10 in professional fees that are due and owing to the Village of Wesley Hills in connection with this matter and less the sum of \$250.00 to be retained by the Village of Wesley Hills as and for an administration fee resulting in a net refund to be paid to the aforesaid C&R Group Corp. in the amount of \$2,348.90.

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Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #3

Resolution #10-21

Resolution approving a refund to Meister Abstract Corp for fee previously paid for an onsite violation search with respect to 46 Wilder Road

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob:

WHEREAS, on or about December 4, 2020 Meister Abstract Corp requested a full violation search with respect to 46 Wilder Road, Monsey, NY and

WHEREAS, on or about said date Meister Abstract Corp paid to the Village of Wesley Hills a fee in the amount of \$150.00 for said search, and

WHEREAS, said Meister Abstract Corp later requested only a records search,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village Clerk is directed to refund to Meister Abstract Corp the sum of \$150.00.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #4

Resolution #11-21

Resolution authorizing the refund of the balance of the escrow deposit of Elky Halberthal

Marion Ben-Jacob made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Howard Richman:

WHEREAS, in October of 2020, Elky Halberthal entered into an Escrow Agreement with the Village of Wesley Hills pursuant to which the sum of \$6,000.00 was deposited with the Village of Wesley Hills to be held in escrow pursuant to the terms of said Escrow Agreement, and

WHEREAS there remains on deposit with the Village of Wesley Hills the balance of said escrow fund in the sum of \$6,000.00, and

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 5, 2021, the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills recommended the release of the balance of the escrow fund to Elky Halberthal,

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby directed to refund the balance of the aforementioned escrow fund in the sum of \$6,000.00 less the sum of \$355.00 in professional fees that are due and owing to the Village of Wesley Hills in connection with this matter and less the sum of \$250.00 to be retained by the Village of Wesley Hills as and for an administration fee resulting in a net refund to be paid to the aforesaid Elky Halberthal in the amount of \$5,395.00.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #5 **Resolution #12-21**
Resolution authorizing the refund of the balance of the escrow deposit of David
Hamburger

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob:

WHEREAS, in December of 2019, David Hamburger entered into an Escrow Agreement with the Village of Wesley Hills pursuant to which the sum of \$6,000.00 was deposited with the Village of Wesley Hills to be held in escrow pursuant to the terms of said Escrow Agreement, and

WHEREAS there remains on deposit with the Village of Wesley Hills the balance of said escrow fund in the sum of \$6,000.00, and

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 19, 2021, the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills recommended the release of the balance of the escrow fund to David Hamburger,

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby directed to refund the balance of the aforementioned escrow fund in the sum of \$6,000.00 less the sum of \$284.00 in professional fees that are due and owing to the Village of Wesley Hills in connection with this matter and less the sum of \$250.00 to be retained by the Village of Wesley Hills as and for an administration fee resulting in a net refund to be paid to the aforesaid David Hamburger in the amount of \$5,466.00.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #6 **Resolution #13-21**
Resolution approving the 2021 Highway Contract with the Town of Ramapo.

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob:

RESOLVED, that the proposed 2021 Village Highway Agreement with the Town of Ramapo for the provision of highway services for the period of January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2021, a copy of which is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, is hereby accepted, and that the Mayor is authorized to indicate the approval of such agreement by signing same on behalf of the Village of Wesley Hills nunc pro tunc.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #7 **Resolution #14-21**
Resolution authorizing the refund of the balance of the escrow deposit of Joy Land
Developers Corp.

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-

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Jacob:

WHEREAS, in January of 2019, Joy Land Developers Corp. entered into an Escrow Agreement with the Village of Wesley Hills pursuant to which the sum of \$4,200.00 was deposited with the Village of Wesley Hills to be held in escrow pursuant to the terms of said Escrow Agreement, and

WHEREAS there remains on deposit with the Village of Wesley Hills the balance of said escrow fund in the sum of \$4,200.00, and

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 6, 2021, the Village Engineer of the Village of Wesley Hills recommended the release of the balance of the escrow fund to Joy Land Developers Corp,

NOW, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk of the Village of Wesley Hills is hereby directed to refund the balance of the aforementioned escrow fund in the sum of \$4,200.00 less the sum of \$3,633.67 in professional fees that are due and owing to the Village of Wesley Hills in connection with this matter and less the sum of \$250.00 to be retained by the Village of Wesley Hills as and for an administration fee resulting in a net refund to be paid to the aforesaid Joy Land Developers Corp in the amount of \$316.33.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #8
Resolution approving abstracts of audited claims

Resolution #15-21

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob:

RESOLVED, that the general fund claims #18126 through #18193 in the aggregate amount of \$64,532.84 as set forth in Abstract #2/21 dated February 2, 2021, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #8A
Resolution approving transfer of funds

Resolution #16-21

Howard Richman made a motion to approve the following resolution, seconded by Ed McPherson:

RESOLVED, that the transfers in the aggregate amount of \$75,923.77 as set forth in Abstract #2/21 dated February 2, 2021, a copy of which abstract of audited claims is made a part of the Minutes of this Board, are hereby approved.

Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Item #9
Mayor's Report

Employee Handbook

Mayor Katz stated that the handbook has been updated with the new state required policies and will be presented to the Board for approval once the Village Attorney has reviewed it.

Spook Rock Road Bridge Meeting

Mayor Katz stated he attended a meeting with Ed McPherson and the County Highway to discuss funding for the Spook Rock Road dam replacement. It was suggested that the Mayor send a letter to the homeowners and notify them of the potential County project and seek their input. The letter should also state the options which are: repair the dam, closure/removal of the road at the lake, and the dam would be breached resulting in the end of through traffic at that location.

Ed McPherson stated we need to consider pedestrian and bike traffic if the road is closed.

Orange & Rockland Vegetation Meeting

Mayor Katz stated that a Zoom meeting is scheduled for 2/3/21 at 2:30 with O&R to discuss their vegetation policies. Ruth and Ed were invited to attend.

NYS Budget

Mayor Katz stated that the Governor has proposed his budget which will give Towns/Villages back 15% of the 20% cut from the CHIPS, EWR and Pave NY funding. It also cuts the AIM funding. Mayor Katz stated that he has reached out to our State Representatives and voiced his opinion on the cuts. Mayor Katz stated that he has also reached out to our State Representatives about eliminating the Governors powers during this pandemic as it has been a year.

Treasurer's Report

Donalee Berard presented the monthly financial reports to the Board and stated that we are 8 months into the year, and we are on track with 66.6% of expenditures.

Mayor Katz requested that Ms. Berard look at the year-to-date report under Planning Board Fees and make the required adjustments.

Village Clerk's Report

Village Clerk states that the Village has received 27 complaints this month. The Village sent out requests for proposals (RFP) for the Village Hall landscaping, Village Hall snowplowing and Village Park landscaping. A summary of the proposals was provided to the Board for review. Board members reviewed the proposals and will award the proposals at next month's meeting.

Trustee's Report

Howard Richman stated that the O&R gas main replacement on Kentor & Earl is moving along. The workers are very respectful and clean.

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Howard Richman stated that the Town again piled the snow at the end of Kentor in front of the last house's driveway.

Howard Richman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marion Ben-Jacob. Upon vote, this motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Camille Guido-Downey